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LRB097 12046 KTG 55796 r

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, There are approximately 2,200,000 persons with
3 disabilities residing in the State of Illinois, most of whom
4 need assistive technology for daily living, education,
5 independence, and employment; and

6 WHEREAS, A great number of persons with disabilities in
7 Illinois will purchase assistive technology with manufacturing
8 defects or deceptive warranty terms, thereby diminishing their
9 educational and employment opportunities and increasing their
10 dependence upon federal and State support and forcing them to
11 unnecessarily rely upon community based resources and family
12 members for financial support and daily living assistance; and

13 WHEREAS, It is almost always more cost-effective to
14 purchase appropriate assistive technology for a person with a
15 disability to enable that person to reach his or her potential
16 for independent living, education, and employment than to
17 provide public assistance and government-funded personal care
18 assistance for that person; and

19 WHEREAS, The Assistive Technology Evaluation and Training
20 Centers Act was enacted by the 90th General Assembly to ensure
21 that persons with disabilities obtain comprehensive services
22 regarding assistive technology including (i) comprehensive

1 individual evaluations for a broad range of assistive
2 technology needs for persons with all types of disabilities for
3 use in the home, at school, in employment, and in the
4 community, and (ii) training regarding assistive technology
5 options available to the consumer and training in the proper
6 use of assistive technology; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
8 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
9 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that there is created the Assistive
10 Technology Evaluation and Training Centers Task Force to study
11 the effectiveness of the Assistive Technology Evaluation and
12 Training Centers Act in protecting consumers from
13 manufacturing defects and warranty abuses by assistive
14 technology manufacturers; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall submit a report to the
16 General Assembly on or before December 31, 2011 on the results
17 of the study, and should the Task Force determine, after
18 conducting the study, that the Act fails to adequately protect
19 consumers from manufacturing defects and warranty abuses by
20 assistive technology manufacturers, the Task Force shall
21 include in its report recommendations for any necessary
22 legislative changes to the Act; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall consist of 6 members

1 appointed as follows: 2 members appointed by the Speaker of the
2 House of Representatives, one of whom shall be a representative
3 of the disability community; one member appointed by the
4 Minority Leader of the House of Representatives; one member
5 appointed by the President of the Senate; one member appointed
6 by the Minority Leader of the Senate; and one member appointed
7 by the Governor, all of whom shall serve without compensation;
8 and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Department of Human Services shall
10 provide administrative and other support to the Task Force; and
11 be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to the Secretary of the Department of Human Services.